



Big Walnut Joint Fire District Emergency Medical Services Program Implementation Report

Chief Ben Lovell

Chesterville/Chester Township

4/1/2021

Background

In early 2020, BWJFD and MCEMS began to have discussions on implementing a joint EMS response protocol that would allow BWJFD firefighter/EMTs to work under the Morrow County Firefighter's and Squadmans Association medical protocol to assist MCEMS personnel. MCEMS donated equipment, gear, documents to BWJFD to carry EMS equipment on the fire apparatus. However, in the Fall of 2020 with the receipt of CARES Act money from the 5 political subdivisions that BWJFD protects, it was suggested by Chief Ben Lovell to purchase an ambulance and all needed equipment to run an equal but separate EMS program. This program has taken 4 months to prepare, but we are in a position to formally begin EMS care to the sick and injured in Morrow County.

Administrative Preparation

In order for BWJFD to begin its own EMS program, a large amount of paperwork had to be performed. We had to hire a doctor, who would oversee our medical program and provide the legal course to treat the sick and injured under the Ohio Revised Code. We selected Erika Kube, M.D. of Ohio Health to oversee our program. She is well known for her work with Delaware County Fire/EMS. We



have adopted the medical protocol currently used by Morrow County EMS that was approved in 2017. We have applied and received our license from the State of Ohio to legally administer drugs. We have a State of Ohio Board of Pharmacy approved drug addendum that lists all emergency medical drugs that we can order if need be. Should we move to advanced life support, we are legally ready to order those additional drugs. Our EMS officer will be Captain Anthony Whitt. He will be the captain in charge of EMS, reporting to Chief Ben Lovell regarding EMS decisions, reporting, equipment, etc. The BWJFD EMS program is designed to compliment and augment the EMS delivery system currently in place in Morrow County. Our equipment, medical protocol, medical director (Dr. Kube) are all the same. However, it is a stand-alone system, not legally or administratively connected to MCEMS. This is due to the current financial instability of the economy, the uncertain future of Morrow County Hospital and its impact on the community, and the stability of the Morrow County Firefighter's and Squadman Association delivery system. Although MCFSA and MCEMS are composed of dedicated individuals who have delivered EMS service for over 40 years, its current administrative makeup makes it vulnerable to financial instability. It is a unique system designed in 1971 that is rarely seen today in Ohio. It is a non-profit LLC run by 5 fire chiefs and 4 EMS members that is contracted by the Morrow County Commissioners to provide EMS. The formation and delivery of BWJFD EMS provides redundancy to the public in care of any unforeseen issues.

Services Provided by Emergency Medical Technician-Basic

In the State of Ohio there are 3 levels of Emergency Medical Technician, Basic, Intermediate and Paramedic. The BWJFD is only signed off by Dr. Kube to perform EMT-Basic skills, regardless of the individual's EMT certification level.

- Airway management
- Pulse oximeter readings
- Delivery of oxygen
- Bag valve mask to assist respirations
- End tidal oxygen monitoring
- CPR
- Use of an AED
- Set up cardiac monitor/12 lead EKG in presence of Paramedic
- Giving aspirin to cardiac patient
- Giving glucose to a diabetic emergency
- Giving Narcan
- Set up IV in presence of Paramedic
- Splinting broken bones
- Stopping bleeding
- Recording vital signs
- Emergency childbirth
- May provide immunizations when an emergency is declared by the governor

Our equipment will be set in a 3 tiered system. All of our apparatus will have AEDs.

1. Squad 39- transport truck. Large BLS bag, Zoll X series monitor, various long bone immobilization equipment, backboards, c-collars, bleeding control and airway equipment.
2. Engine 30 and Engine 33- Large BLS bag, AED
3. Brush 32, Brush 37, Tanker 34- Small BLS bag, AED

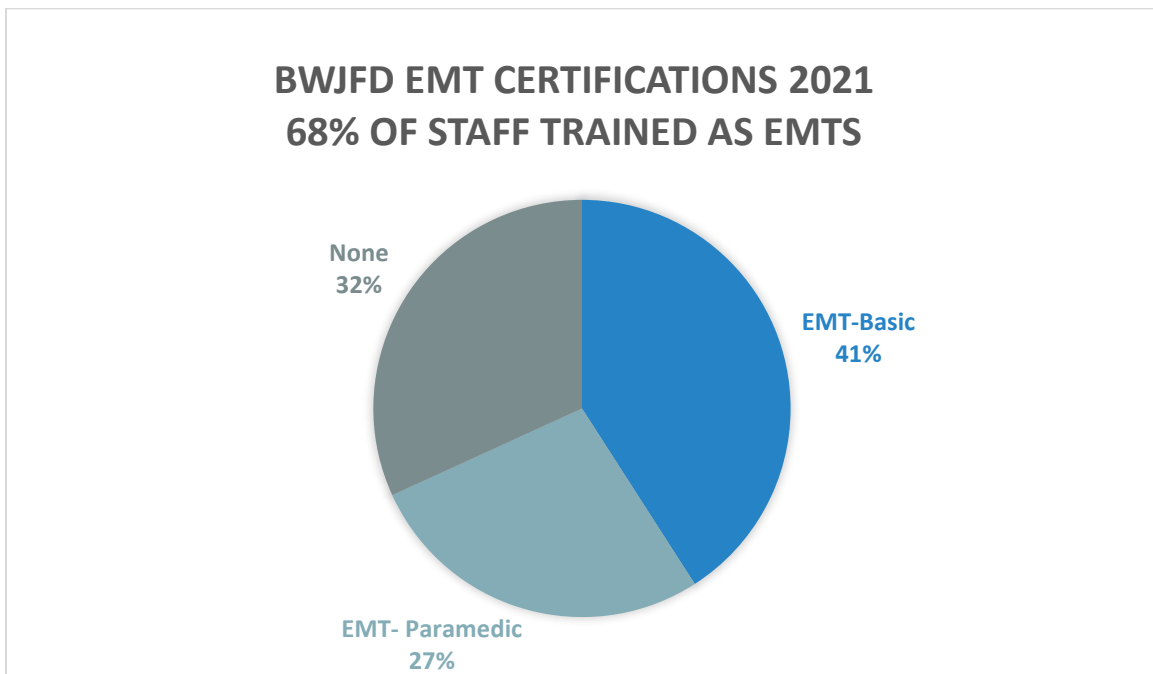
We are also considering issuing the last 3 AEDs to firefighters to carry in their POV to respond as 1st responders. This would be the test for Chief Lovell's "AED in the POV" program developed a few years ago. Any member who wants to participate must have a current vehicle inspection sticker in their POV and be willing to respond to incidents within the fire district.



EMT Roster

EMT - Basic				
Cavinee, Chad	04/12/2018		04/12/2021	
Gerlach, Thomas	06/08/2018		06/08/2021	
Huddleston, Rocki	01/22/2019	10/26/2020	10/26/2023	
Moreland, Zach	06/04/2018	12/03/2020	12/03/2023	
Park, Andrew	08/16/2019	05/27/2020	05/27/2023	
Shaw, Jacob	04/04/2018		04/04/2021	
Sinclair, Caleb	03/27/2019		03/26/2022	
Straub, Matt	05/15/2018		05/15/2021	
Whitt Jr., Anthony	11/16/2016		01/06/2022	

EMT - Paramedic				
Evers, Alex	03/13/2020	11/03/2020	11/03/2023	
Leonard, Jeremy S	11/08/2017	03/09/2020	03/09/2023	
Lovell, Benjamin J	09/30/1997	09/25/2018	09/25/2021	
Lovell, Lauri	06/09/2018		06/09/2021	
Shaw, Jessica	01/23/2019		01/23/2022	
Thompson, Joe	09/30/2020		08/05/2023	



Policies/Procedures

The squad is numbered as "Squad 39", and is equipped with all the needed equipment to participate in basic emergency care runs. We have used the Ohio Department of Public Safety Division of EMS Ambulance Inspection worksheet (EMS 4016) as a template for stocking the truck. It will not be on any pre-dispatch run cards currently at the 911 center, however the truck is registered in the computer aided dispatch center. If the Marengo fire station is staffed during the day, and Squad 3 or 1 is out of the area, and an EMS run is dispatched within the fire district's first due district, Squad 39 will start on the run. If we are requested by another agency, we will respond just as if we were in a fire truck. Squad 39

will also carry SCBAs, and firefighting hand tools. It can be used on fire scenes to bring firefighters to the fire, but if an injury occurs, the crew can switch roles and administer patient care. We will send notification to the other fire departments in the county, as well as our mutual aid partners, that we are available if needed. Squad 39 will not perform inter-facility transports, either patients from the hospital to their homes or doctor visits. Squad 39 will only take 911 calls. However, BWJFD will not refuse a request for assistance. Any issues can be sorted out later.

Proof of Concept of BWJFD EMS

We have already had 2 runs in the last 30 days that BWJFD EMTs have arrived on scene and performed patient care ahead of MCEMS with successful results

- March 14, 2021- McDonalds at State Route 95, Chester Township. Report of an unresponsive person. Tanker 34 was in the area doing drive time. Enroute at 17:19:40, arrived at 17:24:07. FF Andrew Park and Cadet Bailey Dameron arrived and initiated patient care with the basic EMT equipment on T-34. MCEMS arrived from Mt. Gilead a few minutes later and assumed patient care. BWJFD assisted with loading the patient into Squad 1.
- March 27, 2021- 5033 State Route 229, Bennington Township. Report of a male with difficulty breathing. MCEMS squads from Marengo, Mt. Gilead, and Cardington were already on other runs. 911 started the Iberia squad, which was later cancelled by EMS 9 and replaced by DELCO Medic 6. Chief 301 and 302 responded POV to the scene to initiate care. Enroute 18:16:56, arrived 18:28:16. Arrived 8 minutes ahead of Delaware County EMS Medic 6 from Olive Green.

Program Ready for Implementation

The BWJFD is ready to place Squad 39 in service as the 6th EMS squad in Morrow County. With the Fire Board's permission, we will begin to take EMS runs within the county